IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A receiver for receiving broadcast signals multiplexed with program guide information including information on the broadcast times of programs, the receiver comprising:

receiving means for receiving the multiplexed signals;

separation means for separating the program guide information in the multiplexed signals from the broadcast signals; and

production means for producing a retrieval table based on the program guide information, the retrieval table comprising a plurality of time slots each having a predetermined length of time including predetermined start and end times that are independent of the program broadcast times, and for allocating each program to at least one of the plurality of time slots based on the broadcast time of the program, wherein the programs have varying lengths of time and the allocation is performed for each program with reference to a relative start time and a relative end time within a selected time slot in the retrieval table, at least one of the relative start time and the relative end time associated with a given program being different than the predetermined start and end times for a given time slot.

2. (original) The receiver as claimed in claim 1, wherein the production means produces a retrieval table for each genre of program.

3. (previously presented) The receiver as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

storage means for storing the separated program guide information;

input means for inputting a broadcast time to be retrieved;

execution means for executing program retrieval on the basis of the input broadcast time and the retrieval table; and

processing means for reading out program information of a retrieved program from the storage means and carrying out display processing.

4. (currently amended) A method for retrieving broadcast signals multiplexed with program guide information including information on the broadcast times of programs, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving the multiplexed signals;

separating the program guide information in the multiplexed signals from the broadcast signals;

producing a retrieval table based on the program guide information, the retrieval table comprising a plurality of time slots each having a predetermined length of time including predetermined start and end times that are independent of the program broadcast times; and

allocating each program to at least one of the plurality of time slots based on the broadcast time of the program, wherein the programs have varying lengths of time and the allocation is performed for each program with reference to a relative start time and a relative end time within a selected time slot in the retrieval table, at least one of the relative start time and the relative end time associated with a given program being different than the predetermined start and end times for a given time slot.

5. (previously presented) The program retrieval method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the step of producing a retrieval

table includes producing a retrieval table for each genre of program.

6. (previously presented) The program retrieval method as claimed in claim 4, further comprising the steps of:

storing the separated program guide information;

inputting a broadcast time to be retrieved;

executing program retrieval on the basis of the input broadcast time and the retrieval table;

reading out program information of a retrieved program; and

carrying out display processing.

7-10. (canceled)

11. (currently amended) A system for producing a retrieval table based upon program guide objects pertaining to broadcast programs, the system comprising:

means for identifying program guide objects associated with one or more selected programs;

means for determining program start times and program end times of each of the selected programs; and

means for setting relative start and end times of the selected programs in at least one timeslot, for generating clone program guide objects from the program guide objects, and for allocating the clone program guide objects on the retrieval table with reference to the at least one timeslot;

wherein at least one of the relative start time and the relative end time associated with a given one of the selected programs is different than predetermined start and end times for the at least one timeslot.

12. (currently amended) A method of producing a retrieval table based upon program guide objects pertaining to broadcast programs, the method comprising:

identifying program guide objects associated with one or more selected programs;

determining program start times and program end times of each of the selected programs;

setting relative start times of the selected programs in at least one timeslot, the relative start time associated with a given one of the selected programs being different than predetermined start and end times for the at least one timeslot;

generating clone program guide objects from the program guide objects; and

allocating the clone program guide objects on the retrieval table with reference to the at least one timeslot.

13. (new) The receiver of claim 1, wherein a plurality of programs are allocated in the given time slot for a given channel.

14. (new) The method of claim 4, wherein multiple programs are allocated in the given time slot for a given channel.

15. (new) The system of claim 11, wherein multiple clone program guide objects are allocated in a given one of the at least one time slots for a given channel.

16. (new) The method of claim 12, wherein multiple clone program guide objects are allocated in a given one of the time slot for a given channel.

17. (new) The method of claim 4, further comprising generating a program table for display to a user based on the

retrieval table, the program table including program data of a plurality of programs for a predetermined genre.

18. (new) The method of claim 12, further comprising generating a program table for display to a user based on the clone program guide objects of the retrieval table, the program table including program data of a plurality of programs for a predetermined genre.